

ER-1-7316 a

MAR 12 1955

The Honorable J. Percy Priest
Chairman
Committee on Interstate & Foreign Commerce
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 1955, in which you request a report from this Agency on H. R. 4274, a Bill To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the interception of communications by persons other than public officers and employees in the exercise of their official duties.

Section 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947 provides that the Central Intelligence Agency "shall have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers, or internal-security functions: . Since we are thus prohibited from exercising any law-enforcement powers or internal security functions, we feel it would not be proper for us to comment upon legislation such as this which contemplates only those fields.

Sincerely,

Allan W. Dulles
Director

OGC:LRH/blc (9 Mar. 55)

Orig. & 2 - Addressee

3 - Signer

2 - Legislative Counsel w/basic

1 - Mr. James Hyde, Bureau of Budget